

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment with at least one worktop ~~(3, 5) exhibiting~~ having at least one drain channel (2), ~~characterized in that the at least one worktop (3, 5) exhibits~~ which has a plurality of drain grooves (9, 10) provided on its surface (8), which are connected to the at least one drain channel (2), said drain grooves being arranged over the surface in such a way that a segment-like subdivision results for the at least one worktop in conjunction with which the drain grooves are preferably also provided on the periphery of the at least one worktop.

2. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that the drain grooves (9, 10) are executed and arranged over the surface (8) in such way that a segment-like subdivision (11) results for the at least one worktop (3, 5), in conjunction with which the drain grooves (9, 10) are preferably also provided on the periphery (26) of the at least one worktop (3, 5) wherein the at least one drain channel is situated more or less at the centre of the at least one worktop, and in that a drainage line preferably made of Teflon is~~

connected to the at least one drain channel, which drainage line is preferably routed rearwards below the at least one worktop, and then vertically downwards and to a refuse tank.

3. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in ~~Claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that ~~the at least one drain channel (2) is situated more or less at the centre of the at least one worktop (3, 5), and in that a drainage line (12) preferably made of Teflon is connected to the at least one drain channel (2), which drainage line is preferably routed rearwards below the at least one worktop (3, 5), and then vertically downwards and to a refuse tank (13)~~ claim 1, wherein the at least one worktop exhibits a plurality of drain channels, which are preferably arranged in each drain groove running transversely to the longitudinal axis of the at least one work top and in the rearmost drain groove.

4. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one worktop (3, 5) exhibits in its interior a plurality of ~~drain channels (2), which are preferably arranged in each drain groove (9) running transversely to the longitudinal axis of the at least one work top (3, 5) and in the rearmost drain groove (10), and exhibits in its interior a plurality of drain holes (28) running horizontally rearwards and attached at least to the drain~~

channels (2) of a drain groove (9, 10), which holes are attached preferably at the rear edge (30) of the at least one worktop (3, 5) to a collecting line made of Teflon and running horizontally, which line is connected to the refuse tank (13) via a drainage line (12) running vertically downwards.

5. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in ~~one or other of the preceding Claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the drain grooves (9, 10) are inclined towards the at least one drain channel (2).

6. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in ~~one or other of the preceding Claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein a ventilated laboratory cabinet (14) for fluid containers (15), preferably solvent containers, is present beneath the at least one worktop (3, 5).

7. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in Claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the laboratory cabinet (14) is constructed from a non-combustible material and exhibits an earthed floor (16) preferably made of stainless steel sheet.

8. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment as claimed in ~~one or other of the preceding Claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein an extractor hood (7) is provided on the at least one worktop (3, 5).

9. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment according to ~~one or other of the preceding Claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein a safety device (22) is provided, which triggers an alarm in the event that a fluid flows through the drain grooves (9, 10).

10. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment according to ~~one or other of the preceding Claims, characterized in that~~ claim 7, wherein the at least one worktop (3, 5) is part of a mobile laboratory trolley (4), which preferably exhibits one upper and one lower worktop (3, 5) as well as a floor (6) in the form of a low-level supporting construction to receive the cabinet (14).

11. (Currently amended) Laboratory equipment according to ~~one or other of the preceding Claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the at least one worktop (3, 5) is preferably assembled from a plurality of, and advantageously from three, part surfaces (27), and in that each part surface (27) preferably exhibits at least one drain channel (2) and a plurality of drain grooves (9, 10).